

09/989227

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.(Currently Amended) A conveying device for machines for packaging articles in rolls, the conveying device comprising:

conveying means moved stepwise along an endless path, in a forward movement direction; a series of spaced out carriages fastened to said conveying means and disposed in pairs, each pair of said pairs of said adjacent carriages defining holding seats for respective groups of articles to be packaged in a single pack with a sheet of a wrapping material;

each carriage of said carriages including:

gliding means fastened to said conveying means crosswise to said forward movement direction of said conveying means;

slide means slidingly mounted on said gliding means and located in a selected position along said gliding means of said carriages;

a series of pushing prongs extending, perpendicular to said conveying means, from said slide means; means for adjusting said pushing prongs on said carriages during operation of the machine by moving said slide means to a new selected position along said gliding means; said means for adjusting the position of the slide means including endless transmission means, which are located around a close loop path and move crosswise to said forward movement direction, said transmission means being alternately fastened and in engagement with corresponding slide means of subsequent carriages, facing each other.

2.(Original) A device as in claim 1 wherein the number of said pushing prongs on each carriage is the maximum possible, in relation to the dimensions of the groups of articles to be packaged in a pack.

3.(Original) A device as in claim 1 wherein said slide means are kept by friction on said gliding means by elastic gripping means.

4.(Original) A device as in claim 1 wherein said means for adjusting the position of the pushing prongs engage with respective longitudinal grooves made on said slide means.

5.(Cancelled).

6.(Cancelled).

7.(Cancelled).

8.(Cancelled).

9.(Cancelled).

10.(Original) A device as in claim 1 wherein said gliding means include a pair of stems, which are arranged crosswise to said forward movement direction of the conveying means and having opposite ends fastened to said carriages, said carriages sliding on guiding means following a close loop path.

11.(Cancelled).

12.(Cancelled).